



For Immediate Release:
March 24, 2006

Contact: Jonathan Godfrey
202-226-6888

Conyers: Bush Says We'll Be in Iraq for Years to Come

Congressman John Conyers, Jr. today denounced President Bush's admission that he has no complete plan for withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq before leaving office.

"President Bush has finally let the cat out of the bag," said Conyers.

"As the voters' demand for ending the war kept rising, Bush lulled us into thinking he had a withdrawal plan. For months Bush has been assuring us that we were making great progress, and that U.S. forces would be replaced by a rapidly growing Iraqi army. His Pentagon spokesmen promised steady troop withdrawals starting this spring. At Tuesday's press conference, however, President Bush admitted that he will leave the full withdrawal of U.S. troops up to whoever follows him as president."

"In other words," Conyers explained, "Bush's new Iraq strategy for the mess created by his own blunders is simply to pass the hot potato on to next person in the Oval Office. This is not the leadership we need."

We need leaders who will face the realities of Iraq. Our involvement there has made America less secure. Our continued combat there, makes the situation in Iraq worse, not better. It has created terrorist recruits around the globe; it has diverted us from the hunt for Bin Laden and from securing nuclear weapons in Russia against seizure by terrorists, and it has prevented us from adequately strengthening our homeland security. It's time to really support our troops by bringing them home as soon as that can be safely done."

##109-JUD-032406##.